



#3 / Amended  
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PATENTS

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant(s):** David D. Demarest, et al.

**Examiner:** C. F. Dexter

**Serial No:** 09/776,658

**Art Unit:** 3724

**Filed:** February 5, 2001

**Docket:** 8924ZA (ETH-1551)

**For:** SUTURE CUTTING SYSTEM

**Dated:** November 20, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RESPONSE**

Sir:

In response to the Official Action issued on August 20, 2002, Applicants request reconsideration of the above-identified application in light of the following amendment and remarks:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Please amend the claims as follows:**

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1. (Amended) A method for cutting an indefinite length of suture to uniform lengths for subsequent threading and swaging to surgical needles having a suture receiving opening formed therein, comprising:

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on November 20, 2002.

Dated: November 20, 2002

  
Michelle Mustafa

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